

How the STS-107 Crew Inspired Us *(continued)*

■ As we are inspired to Return to Flight, I am personally committed to offer and apply all of my past abilities and experience that include Apollo, Skylab, ASTP, Space Shuttle, and International Space Station. My vision for NASA and human flight is to personally commit my energy and experience to leave no stone unturned to assure safe future flights for our excellent NASA Flight Crews that follow the “Crew of *Columbia*”. Our NASA Flight Crews represent the greatest nation on Earth, the USA.

Joe Levine, Innovative Solutions

■ The STS-107 *Columbia* crew inspired me through the joy and awe they found in the simplest of things: Faith, career, family, nature, sports, flight, hobbies, fashion, humor and their relationship with each other. This legacy of the *Columbia* crew has inspired me to look beyond myself, examine my faith, renew my commitment to family and friends and learn to make the most of every moment. I take great comfort in the knowledge that they lived more in their brief lives than most people do in a lifetime. And I have my lifetime to honor their examples and legacy.

Ellen A. Gillis, Publicist, Astronaut Appearances Office

■ The crew of *Columbia* had a dream – a dream shared by many. It was the dream of exploring space, and they had the wonderful opportunity of actually seeing their dream come true. They knew that exploring space is risky, but it is also part of human destiny and one of the most noble and most interesting vocations possible. Life would be dull indeed if we were not willing to take some risk. For us, life goes on, but we are inspired by them, by their contribution, and by their dream.

Arthur L. Schmitt, SAIC - Innovative Solutions

■ The crew of *Columbia* had a special camaraderie that was quite evident when they scheduled and flew jets out at Ellington Field. What inspired me most about them was how they were trained to go “higher, faster, and farther.” Rick Husband and Mike Anderson said it in so many words in church, that if anything were to happen up there, “they would just keep going, to a higher plain.” And they did. They are an inspiration to all of us here at NASA. In their memory we will find the strength to return to flight.

Charlie Ober, Flight Management Specialist, Aircraft Operations Division

■ I’m in the JSC Graphics Department, and worked with Rick Husband to produce his first flight patch: the STS-96 patch. This was also the first Shuttle crew patch I had been assigned, and I was a little in awe of working directly with an astronaut, but Rick quickly put me at ease. He treated me as if my job was as important to the space program as his. As far as I know, he treated everyone like this, and really believed it. This was the first time that I really felt like I was a part of the space program.

Cindy Bush, Graphic Designer, IMPASS contract

- C - The cohesiveness that they exhibited with each other
- O - The opportunity of a lifetime to explore space, do research and test human spaceflight on the ground and in the air
- L - A league of extraordinary men and women
- U - An unrelenting pursuit of excellence in their chosen fields
- M - In memory of the STS-107 crewmembers
- B - To go beyond the call of duty
- I - To keep the integrity of the space program intact
- A - To aim high

Oretta Cade, Program Integration office, Space and Life Sciences Directorate

■ As I reflect on the lives of the men and women who were a part of the *Columbia* crew, I marvel at their willingness and courage to live their lives according to what they believed was worth accomplishing. Each crewmember put his or her heart and soul into a dream and made it a reality. They lived their lives with “Purpose.” I am inspired to live my life to the best of my being. I am inspired to dream big and not be afraid to make my dreams a reality. I am inspired to live a life that has “Purpose.”

Keresa Aaron, BC Program Controls Analyst, Wyle Laboratories Inc.



The crew of STS-107 gets ready to have their crew portrait taken with NASA JSC photographer, Robert Markowitz.

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David Brown plays around for the camera prior to the photo session.

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■ I was greatly inspired by the *Columbia* crew’s enthusiasm – to the last they were all so enthused about the projects and data that they were bringing back. Even with such a tremendous loss of this precious crew, there will always be a special inspiration to me of their spectacular zeal in the quest of their space endeavors.

Dianne Milner, ERIAR&SD Division Secretary

■ The crew of STS-107 believed that no matter how dangerous the job that it doesn’t matter as long as you love and believe in what you are doing. So many of us go through life and don’t truly love and believe in what we are doing. The crew inspired me to truly take part and believe with all my heart and all my soul in the job that I do for NASA. They made me understand the importance of exploration and pushing the envelope. They inspired me to never give up no matter what the cause if you believe in something.

Tiffany Travis, Communications Specialist, Office of Public Affairs, IMPASS contract

■ Our payload had activities throughout the mission. The crew’s diligence and attention to detail was evident. Leaving from Mission Control to support the landing, I felt pride as I reflected on their achievements. I remembered a previous training session in which the crew discussed strategy with a style and enthusiasm that I imagine occurs during real-time development of a football play! Who would pass to whom and who would hand off to whom. Wow! I will remember this crew with twinkles in their eyes, each taking turns to discuss each other’s experiments. Their determination and strength inspire future achievements.

Lisa Juliette, Cell Scientist